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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.

Serial No. 09/936,164

Filed September 10, 2001

OPTICAL DISK MOLDING APPARATUS
AND METHOD



Confirmation No. 9228

Docket No. 2001_1290A

Group Art Unit 1732

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

#6
N.C.H.
10-3102

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:


a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

b. ☒ a Supplementary European Search Report (in the English language) submitted herewith,

- c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.

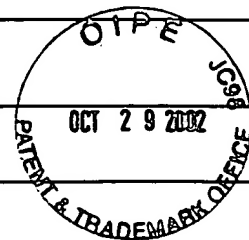
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October 29, 2002

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: October 29, 2002

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2001_1290ASERIAL NO.
09/936,164APPLICANT
Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.FILING DATE
September 10, 2001GROUP
1732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
/	AA	4,988,273	1/1991	Faig et al.			
/	AB	4,615,669	10/1986	Fujita et al.			
/	AC	4,540,359	9/1985	Yamazaki			
/	AD	5,840,352	11/1998	Shimizu et al.			
/	AE	5,316,466	5/1994	Tanaka et al.			
/	AF	6,164,955	12/2000	Kubota			
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 18, no. 135 (P-1705), March 7, 1994 & JP 05 314546 A (HITACHI MAXELL LTD), November 26, 1993.
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED